

EXHIBIT "A"

United States Patent [19]
Jolly

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[54] **TOTAL ELASTIC SUPPORT MEMBER FOR USE WITH AN ORTHOPEDIC DEVICE**

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 903,289, Sep. 3, 1986, abandoned.

[51] **Int. Cl.⁴** A61F 2/60

[52] **U.S. Cl.** 623/32

[58] **Field of Search** 623/31-34; 128/165, 157, 158, 525, 133, 132 R, 82, 166; 450/107, 122, 151, 101

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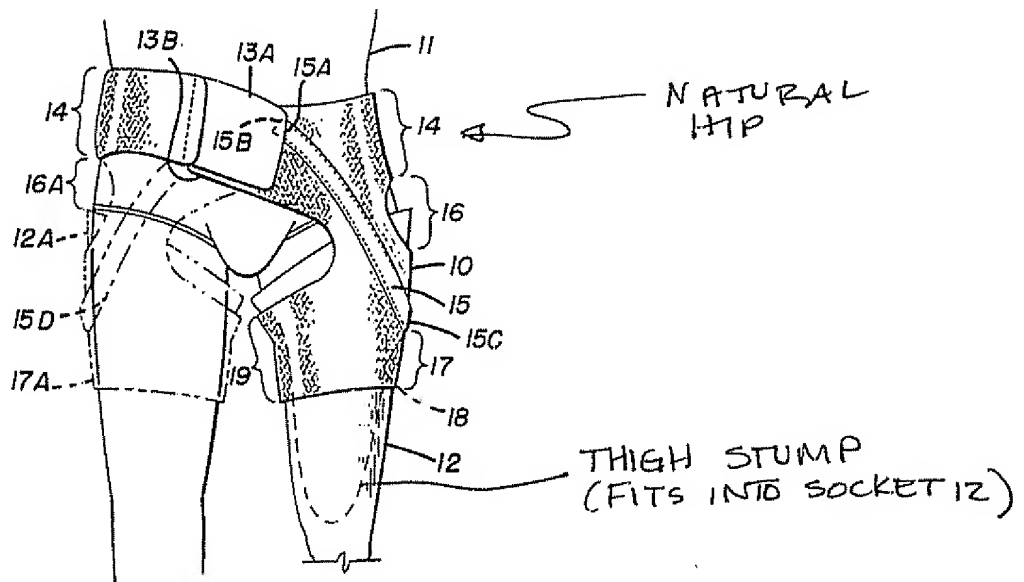
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[57] ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an integral flexible elastic support member for securely gripping an orthopedic device such as a cast on a leg or for attaching an artificial leg to the residual lower limb of a human being having at least one above the knee amputation. The supporting member includes an adjustable body encircling portion having free ends which have attachment means, for detachably connecting the free ends together, and at least one integrally formed flexible cylindrical elastic sleeve portion descending downwardly from the body encircling portion to grip and provide support for at least one artificial leg. Optionally, the orthopedic member additionally includes a V-shaped adductor panel on the surface of the device to assist in positioning and with control of forces. Optionally, the supporting member also includes an opening within the adductor panel region to assist in the management of the forces. VELCRO® hook and loop attachment means, and an elastic neoprene/nylon composite fabric are preferred materials of manufacture. Optionally, the sleeve is formed by connecting second detachable attachment means.

42 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



THIS ILLUSTRATES THE TYPE OF AMPUTEE FOR WHOM THE KRISTINSSON DEVICE IS INTENDED. NOTE THAT THE PATIENT'S NATURAL HIP JOINT IS FULLY FUNCTIONAL